Ministry of Commerce Public Notice No. 223/PN/92—97 dated 26th July, 1994, to assist and support the recognised Export Houses Trading Houses/Star Trading Houses/Super Star Trading Houses. Copy of the aforesaid Public Notice is available in Parliament Library.

Coffee Cultivation in Andhra Pradesh

3527. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred question 797 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 1st August, 1994 and state;

(a) whether Coffee Board has made any efforts to spread coffee cultivation in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, what is the present acreage of coffee in Andhra Pradesh;

(c) what is the identified acreage suitable for coffee cultivation in Andhra; and

(d) the details of the identified areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The present acreage of coffee in Andhra Pradesh is 9907 hectares.

(c) and (d). The identified acreage suitable for coffee cultivation in Andhra Pradesh is 11,040 ha. located in the districts of:-

Vishakhapatnam	8,689 ha.
East Godavary	2,251 ha.
Srikakulam	100 ha.

Role of the office of Commissioner of Exports in DGFT

3528. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the role of the office of Commissioner of Exports in the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT);

(b) whether any new functions have been assigned to that office in the newly designated DGFT;

(c) what are the details of export promotion activities of this office;

(d) what are the specific outlines of this job;

(e) whether specific responsibility for efficient processing of all applications for exports lies with the Commissioner of Exports and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (f). Export Commissioner is one of the officers in the Office of DGFT whose major role is to act as a facilitator for Export Promotion. The officer also looks after formulation of Export Policy, its procedures, Export Licensing and monitoring of Export Obligation. The new functions assigned to the Office of DGFT are given in Chapter II of the Export and Import Policy, April 1992 — March 1997, a copy of which is available in the Parliament Library.

Issue of Export Licences by DGFT

3529. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the average time it takes for DGFT is issue necessary export licence after clearance comes from the nodal Ministry;

(b) whether it is a fact that the procedural delays are quite irksome to small exporters from outside Delhi;

(c) whether there is any proposal to fix

a maximum period of seven days for the clearance to be issued to exporters;

(d) what are the changes brought about by DGFT during the last years to ensure immediate clearance;

(e) how many such clearances for export are pending with DGFT till date which have been under process for more than 15 days; and

(f) steps proposed to streamline DGFT and remove delays?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Wherever the applications are complete in all respects, export licences are issued within a period of two weeks from the date of clearance by the Licensing Committee concerned.

(c) to (f) It has been ensured that the Licensing committee meets regularly in order to clear the cases. Only four cases are pending for approval of respective Licensing committees. negative list of exports has been pruned down drastically in the revised EXIM Policy 1992-97. Further, review of Export Policy and Proceure is a continuous process, changes for simplification and to remove constraints are made in the Policy and Procedure on an ongoing basis in the larger public interest.

Trade relations with NON-GATT Signatory countries

3530. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state: the name of the countries who have not signed GATT agreement and with whom India is having trade at present?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): There are 123 members of GATT and 17 countries' requests for accession are at different stages of consideration. There are 69 countries with which we trade but which are not members of GATT. There are Canary Islands, Cape Varde Islands, Comoros, Djibouti, Ethiopia Equatorial Guinea, Guinea, Liberia, Reunion, Sao Thomo and Principle, Seychelles, Somalia, st. Helena of Ascensior, Libya, Sudan, Greenland, St. Pierrea and Miquelon, Bahamas, Montsorrat, American Samoa, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Falkland Islands, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Panama Canal Zone, Puerto Rico, Turks and Caicos Islands, Virgin Islands of U.S., Afghanistan, Bhutan, Christmas Island, Cook Islands, Iran, Kiribati Republic, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mongolia, Republic of Nauru, Nepal, Papua and new Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vietnam, Western Samoa, Iraq, Lebanon, Oman, Syria, Yemen Arab Republic, Yeman People's Democratic Republic, Cocos Islands, French Guiana, French Polynesia, Guam, New Caledonea, New Hebrides, Nive Island, Norfolk Island, Pacific Islands, Pitcairn Islands, Portuguese Timor, Tokelau Islands, Wall is and futuna Islands, Republic of Vanuata, Faeroe Islands, Andora, Channel Islands and Gibraltar.

Export Promotion Industrial Park at Bangalore

3531. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has submitted a proposal to the Central government for sanction to set up an export promotion Industrial Park in Whitefield, Bangalore, involving a Central Assistance of Rs. 10.00 crores;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the State Government has come forward to countribute Rs. 5.00 crore in addition to the cost of land of the project; and

(c) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Government of Karnataka have submitted a proposal to set up an Export Promotion Industrial Park at Hoodi near Banagalore at an estimated cost of Rs. 24.71 crores involving a Central Government grant of Rs. 10 crores. The Con